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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 35th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 16 July 1996, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. GERVAIS (Côte d'Ivoire)

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES (continued)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (continued)

PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES (continued)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (continued)

Draft resolution E/1996/L.22

Ms. LEBL (United States of America), introducing draft resolution E/1996/L.22 entitled "Strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions", drew attention to paragraph 1. She pointed out that, although the draft resolution had some bearing on the topic of international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances and related activities, it should have been submitted under the topic of coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system.

The PRESIDENT said that the Council took note of the statement.

PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES (A/51/135-E/1996/51) (continued)

Mr. ZOUBI (Jordan) said that Jordan had been a staunch advocate of peace in the Middle East for many years, a position that culminated in the signing of the Treaty of Peace with Israel in October 1994. The Treaty had also outlined a model for regional cooperation in the Middle East. His Government believed that peace, characterized by mutual respect between the peoples of the region, was the only way forward. Such a peace should be comprehensive, just, permanent and conform to the provisions of international law.

With reference to the construction of Israeli settlements in Arab lands since 1967, both the Security Council and the General Assembly had adopted resolutions condemning the practice as a serious obstacle to peace. Despite the agreements that had been signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the continued existence of Israeli settlements posed a threat to security and stability in the region. His delegation urged Israel to

discontinue the confiscation of Arab land and the construction of settlements. The Economic and Social Council should keep the issue under consideration and make every effort to secure justice for the real owners of the confiscated land.

Mr. KAID (Observer for Yemen) said that the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia reflected the disappointment of the international community regarding Israel's expansionist policies, which took no account of the needs of the Arab population and ran counter to Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. As a result they constituted a serious obstacle to peace in the Middle East. To say that Arabs would ultimately adapt to the repercussions of Israeli policy was to do the Arab nation a great disservice.

Mr. TALBOT (Guyana) said that the negative economic and social consequences of Israeli occupation of Arab land continued to be a matter of concern for his delegation. Efforts to secure full respect for the Palestinian population should be intensified. The Economic and Social Council and other bodies in the United Nations system should continue to consider the issue of the occupied territories.

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.